



April 4, 1984

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[Redacted]  
Classification Review Division  
Office of Information Services  
Directorate of Administration  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D.C. 20505

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During the declassification conference at the Library last November you indicated that CIA personnel might be available to conduct an on-site declassification review of classified materials in our holdings not examined previously by CIA representatives. The staff has surveyed the Library's classified holdings and believes that further reviewing by a CIA team would be quite useful.

Materials needing review include over 100 linear feet of NSC Staff Records. These are highly classified and contain much information of interest to the CIA. Among these records are the Psychological Strategy Board Central Files (approximately 45 boxes for period 1951-53), the Operations Coordinating Board Central Files (124 boxes for period 1953-57), the Operations Coordinating Board Secretariat (19 boxes covering years 1953-61) plus miscellaneous other national security materials. Since we are currently processing these OCB materials they are a top reviewing priority. Two other collections which should be reviewed are the Records of the President's Committee on International Information Activities (Jackson Committee), mostly 1952-53 materials, and the Records of the President's Committee on Information Activities Abroad (Sprague Committee), 1959-61. Both contain considerable information on psychological warfare, attributed and unattributed information, Radio Free Europe, and other intelligence related topics.

The archives section staff discussed these NSC Staff Records with Brenda Reger of the National Security Council. She said that NSC will not make any declassification decisions on OCB and PSB materials until CIA has examined them first. She said that a CIA review of these records would facilitate future on-site NSC reviews and mandatory classification reviews of these records.

A CIA team might also assist the staff in identifying topic headings and names which, because of current sensitivity, should not be listed or described in withdrawal sheets or finding aids prepared for public use.

The staff frequently encounters the names of CIA personnel in documents among the Library's national security files. Some of these names appear on otherwise innocuous documents which do not

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bear security markings. In other instances the named CIA individual(s) may be the only information in NSC or White House documents of current interest to the CIA. In fact, Brenda Reger suggested that a CIA team review documents strictly for content with the understanding that names of CIA personnel will automatically be withheld. Such a procedure might enable CIA reviewers to sign off on many documents. Photocopies of such items, minus the names could then be reviewed by the State Department and the NSC without further referral to CIA, thus expediting action on mandatory review requests. Of course, a determination that many of these names are now releasable would also help us. The staff has prepared a list of over 200 names of CIA personnel whose status is now known. Can we submit this list to the Agency for review and, if so, to whom should we send it? Is it necessary that the names be listed in alphabetical order?

Because of the volume of these records and the variety of documents contained therein a review of these materials will be slow and will probably result in few declassification decisions by the CIA team since concurrence from NSC, the Department of State and sometimes other agencies will still be needed before many of these documents can be declassified.

Can an Agency team authorize the release of sanitized CIA-originated documents when feasible? In the past, CIA systematic reviews have been conducted on an all or nothing basis. Also, can Agency reviewers clearly indicate which portions of NSC, White House or other agency documents are of CIA interest?

In summary, we believe that an on-site review of the files described above by a CIA declassification team will assist the Library by:

1. clearly identifying those documents currently sensitive from CIA's standpoint.
2. facilitating future on-site reviewing by NSC and possibly by other agencies.
3. expediting action on mandatory classification review requests.
4. assisting the staff in processing and describing records so that intelligence sources and methods and other national security information can be properly protected.

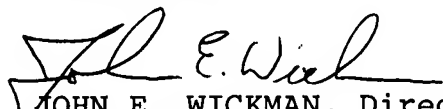
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If the Central Intelligence Agency can send a team to the Library, please let us know when Agency representatives intend to arrive. We will then contact Brenda Reger to obtain NSC approval and we will plan for the visit. Please contact Dr. James Leyerzapf, Supervisory Archivist at the Library, with any questions on this matter. (913-263-4751 or FTS 752-2580).

Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

  
JOHN E. WICKMAN, Director  
Dwight D. Eisenhower Library